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For the Year Ended
31st December, 1951.

MONMOUTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR
THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1951

Members of the
Council:

Councillor A.J. Roberts J.P., Chairman
" E.J. Porter Vice Chairman

Councillor	A.W. Anstey.	Councillor	S.W. Jones, J.P.
"	E.A. Ellaway.	"	F.J. Cripwell.
"	H. Johns.	"	W. Phillips.
"	B.R. Davies, J.P.	"	I.L. Williams.
"	E.R. Ballinger.	"	J.P. Jones.
"	T.J. Price.	"	S. Jenkins.
"	J.P. Williams.	"	A.G. Edwards.
"	R.I. Edwards.	"	G.J. Edwards.
"	E.M. Cowles.	"	G. Bayliss.
"	Harry Jones.	"	W. Jenkins.

Clerk of the Council. B.Ll. Griffiths

Public Health & Housing Committee

Councillor E.A. Ellaway Chairman.

Councillor	S.W. Jones, J.P.	Councillor	A.J. Roberts.
"	E.R. Ballinger.	"	F.J. Cripwell.
"	E.J. Porter.	"	I.L. Williams.
"	W. Phillips.	"	Harry Jones.
"	E.M. Cowles	"	R.I. Edwards.
			S. Jenkins.

Public Health Staff

Medical Officer of Health -

E.N. Dowell: M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Sanitary Inspector -

G.L. Dicks: M.S.I.A., A.R.San.Inst.
as Sanitary Inspector and Petroleum Inspector.
(Whole Time).

MONMOUTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Shaftesbury House,
Monnow Street,
Monmouth.

Telephone No. 268.

September, 1952.

To :- The Chairman and Members of the
Monmouth Rural District Council.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit my Annual Report
on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your
District for the year ended December, 1951.

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant

E.N. Dowell.

VITAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	54,858
Estimated mid-year Home Population	5,832
Number of inhabited houses	1,832
Rateable Value	£16,384
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£65.5. 2.

The Registrar-General's preliminary report on 1951 Census shows that the population of Monmouth R.D.C. has fallen from 6,233 in 1931 to 5,942 in 1951.

BIRTHS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	44	43	87
Illegitimate		2	2

In 1950 the total live births were 112.

Still Births

Legitimate	1	1	2
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In 1950 there was one still birth.

<u>Infant Mortality</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age	2	-	2
Deaths of Infants 4 weeks of age	1	-	1

There were in 1950 2 deaths of infants under 1 year of age.

DEATHS

<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	50	46	96

This shows an increase of 24 over 1950 and deaths over live births a decrease in population of 7.

Table 1. gives a classification of the cause of death and the number attributed to each cause. There were 3 deaths attributed to Pulmonary Tuberculosis in 1950 but this year there are 3 deaths attributed to Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis as well.

GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

Immunisation

During the year the number of primary inoculations was 216 and re-inoculations 173.

Diphtheria

One case of Diphtheria was notified but on removal to isolation hospital this was not confirmed.

Scarlet Fever.

2 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified as against 13 in 1950.

Measles

37 notifications were received and of these 18 were of children in the age group 5 to 10 years. This shows a decrease of 27 as compared with last year's notifications.

Whooping Cough

62 notifications were received and the majority were in the age groups 4-5 and 5-10 years, the number being 13 and 27 respectively.

Poliomyelitis

One case was notified which was a boy aged 16 years, who was removed to Over Isolation, Nr. Gloucester, on 5/9/51.

Ten days previous to admission to Isolation Hospital, he visited the cinema at Chepstow, when boys from the Army Apprentice School, Beachley, might have been present.

Poliomyelitis has been reported at Beachley.

The boy did not feel well the next day after the visit to the cinema.

TUBERCULOSIS

The following notifications were received during the year :-

(i)	Male	Age 18 years	Lungs
(ii)	Male	" 69 years	Lungs
(iii)	Male	" 68 years	Lungs
(iv)	Male	" 69 years	Lungs
(v)	Male	" 7 years	Tabes Mesenterica
(vi)	Male	" 17 years	Pleural Effusion.
(vii)	Female	" 34 years	Mesenteric Tuberculosis Glands.
(viii)	Female	" 42 years	lungs

There is a decrease of 8 notifications as compared with number in 1950.

5 patients were admitted to hospital and 6 were discharged.

On the 15/12/51 a notification was received that a teacher in one of the schools in the area was suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis with a positive sputum. It was decided to tuberculin skin test the school, to x-ray the positive reactors, and to offer B.C.G. vaccination to the negative reactors; this was suggested by the Chest Physician.

TABLE 1

	<u>Deaths 1951</u>	<u>males</u>	<u>females.</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory		3	
Tuberculosis, other.		1	2
Malignant neoplasm, stomach		3	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus		1	

TABLE 1 (Contd).

	<u>Deaths 1951</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females.</u>
Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms.	5	2	
Diabetes			1
Vascular lesions of nervous system.	5	8	
Coronary disease, angina.	9	9	
Hypertension with heart disease			2
Other heart disease	3	7	
Other circulatory disease	5	2	
Influenza	2	2	
Pneumonia	1	1	
Bronchitis	2	1	
Other disease of respiratory system	1		
Nephritis and nephrosis	1		
Hyperplasia of prostate	1		
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	5	
Motor Vehicle accidents			1
All other Accidents.	2	1	
All causes		50	46

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER. There was some acute shortage of water in the year under review, at drought periods, more particularly at Llanishen where the shortage was due mainly to lack of pumping capacity rather than fall in yield at source. Such fall in yield as did occur in dry period was insufficient to operate the duplicate hydrams, leaving one hydram only in operation. At such periods the supply available from reservoir is less than 25% of available water at source. This is to be remedied by installation of a diesel engine pumping unit to operate at dry weather flow.

The supply at Raglan was much improved in dry weather periods following the installation of Electrical Pumping Unit to replace hydrams.

Gravitation supplies at Llandogo, Narth and Skenfrith were well maintained.

Bacteriological Examination of Raw Water. Satisfactory 6. Unsatisfactory 3.

Chemical Analyses. Satisfactory 3. Unsatisfactory Nil.

All supplies are untreated and are not of such high degree of organic purity as to constitute a first class drinking supply.

Plumbo Solvency. The waters generally are not liable to plumbo-solvent action. The exception is a small gravitation supply at the Narth. There is no contamination with lead, all services being in copper or galvanised pipes, in that area.

EXISTING SUPPLIES

Raglan Parish. Number of houses supplied from public water mains - 120 of which 10 houses carry from stand-pipes.

Trelleck Parish. Number of houses supplied from public water mains - 200.

Llangattock Parish. Number of houses supplied from public water mains. - 25.

TRELLECK & DISTRICT. A much needed scheme for a piped water supply to this area and some surrounding districts is now actively under consideration in accordance with Rural Water Supplies Act of 1944. The proposed source of supply at Ffynnon Gaer Springs has a high degree of purity and a minimum yield of 92,000 gallons per day. The necessary Abstraction Order has been made in accordance with the Water Act, 1945 and 1948 following Public Inquiry into the Council's application.

Number of houses supplied from public water mains:-

(i) direct to the houses	345
(ii) by means of stand-pipes	27

Approximate population supplied from public water mains :-

(i) direct to the houses	1,340
(ii) by means of stand-pipes	108

Number of dwelling houses in the area	1,832
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Estimated population for 1951	5,832
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DRAINAGE & SEWERAGE. There were no extensions to existing Sewers during the year. A new sewer and disposal works was provided in the village of Rockfield to which 12 Council Houses were connected and in addition the adjoining village School. Active consideration is being given to extension of sewers at Raglan.

RIVERS & STREAMS. Pollution is slight in this area.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION. Excepting Raglan and Llandogo wards closets are mainly on the Conservancy System. The area is not populous or closely built. Fifteen conversions to water closets were effected during the year on private premises.

SMOKE ABATEMENT. No action was found necessary in connection with Smoke Abatement.

THE RAG FLOCK & OTHER FILING MATERIALS ACT, 1951. There are no registered premises in the area.

PUBLIC CLEANSING. House Refuse is collected once weekly in Raglan and Monthly in remainder of District.

SWIMMING BATHS & POOLS. There are no public baths in this area. There are no privately owned baths open to the public.

INFESTATION. Premises are generally free from Verminous infestation.

SHOPS. No action was taken during the year under the Shops Act, 1950 relating to Ventilation, temperature and sanitary conveniences. No. of inspections are included in summary below.

CAMPING SITES. Five sites were used for camping during the year. 2 licences were issued for a camping site under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. Estimated number of campers resident in the area at one time during 1951 - 200. Camps were mainly of short duration for periods of about 14 days consisting of Scout Troups.

SCHOOLS. Routine Inspections of schools have been regularly carried out. The majority of elementary schools in the area are situated in Villages without a piped water supply and with NO sewers. Rockfield N.P. School. The accommodation at this school was converted to water closets with connections to Council Sewer. It is very desirable that existing schools with water supply available and with earth closets should be converted to water closets with septic tank drainage. This matter is being pursued with the authorities.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

SUMMARY OF SANITARY INSPECTOR'S VISITS AND NOTICES

SERVED DURING THE YEAR

GENERAL SANITATION.

<u>NATURE OF VISIT OR INSPECTION</u>				<u>TOTALS</u>
Water Supply	..	..	..	400
Drainage	..	..	..	410
Stables and Piggeries	..	..	..	10
Fried Fish Shops	..	..	..	6
Tents Vans and Sheds	..	..	..	40
Factories	..	..	..	25
Bakehouses	..	..	..	47
Public Conveniences	..	..	..	12
Refuse Collection and Refuse Disposal	..	..	..	96

Smoke observations	..	..	0
Schools	..	..	54
Shops	..	..	74
Micellaneous Sanitary Visits	..	..	71.5

HOUSING.

<u>Under Public Health Acts.</u>			
Number of Houses Inspected	..	..	40
Visits paid to above Houses	..	..	45

<u>Under Housing Acts.</u>			
Number of houses inspected	..	..	30
Visits Paid to above houses	..	..	44

<u>Overcrowding.</u>			
Number of houses inspected	..	..	6
Visits paid to above houses	..	..	18

1 house was demolished during the year by formal action under the Housing Act, 1936.

Traditional Houses

Number of houses owned by local authority on the 31st December.	99
Number of local authority houses in course of erection on the 31st December.	18
Number of houses for which sanction had been given but which had not been commenced on the 31st December.	42

Total number of houses erected during the year

By Local Authority	..	..	<u>2</u>
By Private Enterprise	..	..	5
Total	..	..	7

Number of houses under construction by Private Enterprise but not completed on 31.12.51. 1

<u>Vermineous Premises</u>			
Number of Houses Inspected	..	..	1
Visits paid to above house	..	..	3
Micellaneous Housing Visits	..	..	150

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Inquiries in Cases of Infectious Diseases	15
Visits re Disinfection	15
Micellaneous Infectious Disease Visits	7

OTHER VISITS OF INSPECTION.

VISITS IN CONNECTION WITH SAMPLING.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

INSPECTIONS

Premises	Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories with Mechanical Power	26	Nil	Nil
Factories without Mechanical Power	30	Nil	Nil
Other Premises under the Act (including wks of Building & Engineering construction but not including outworkers premises).	0	Nil	Nil
	56	Nil	Nil

DEFECTS FOUND

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects Found			
	Found	Remedied	Referred H.M.Insp.	Prosecutions Instituted.
Want of Cleanliness	Nil	Nil		
Overcrowding				
Unreasonable temperature				
Inadequate ventilation				
Ineffective draiage of floors.	Nil	Nil		
Sanitary Conveniences				
(a) insufficient				
(b) unsuitable or defective				
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil		
Other offences against The Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).				
TOTAL				
	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

There is one Outworker.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

Number of Premises inspected as a result of Notification or otherwise - 158.

Number of properties found to be infested - 38 (inclusive of 1 Agricultural property).

There were no properties seriously infested.

Number of Infested properties treated by Local Authority - 37.
(2 block control schemes).

Number of Notices served - Nil in respect of treatment.

4 Notices were served for structural works (Property).

E.N. Dowell.

Medical Officer of Health.



